

IASbaba 60 Day Plan 2020 – Day 44 Geography

Q.1) Mundari and Santhali are part of which family of languages in India?

- a) Austric (Nishada)
- b) Dravidian
- c) Indo-European (Aryan)
- d) Sino-Tibetan (Kirata)

Q.1) Solution (a)

Explanation:

The speakers of major Indian languages belong to four language families:

Language Family	Languages
Indo-European Family (Aryan)	Hindi, Bengali, Marathi, Urdu, Gujarati, Punjabi, Kashmiri, Rajasthani, Sindhi, Maithili and Odia
Dravidian Family (Dravida),	Kannada, Tamil, Telugu, Malayalam
Austric Family (Nishada)	Kol, Mundari, Nicobari, Khasi, Santhali, Ho, Birhor.
Sino-Tibetan family (Kirata)	Nepalese, Bodo, Manipuri

Q.2) Which among the following are push factors for migration?

- 1. Epidemic
- 2. Peace and stability.
- 3. Unemployment.
- 4. Unfavourable climate.

Choose the correct option:

- a) 1 and 4 only
- b) 1, 2 and 3 only
- c) 1, 3 and 4 only
- d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Q.2) Solution (c)

Explanation:

People migrate for a better economic and social life. There are two sets of factors that influence migration.

1. **The Push factors** make the place of origin seem less attractive for reasons like unemployment, poor living conditions, political turmoil, unpleasant climate, natural disasters, epidemics and socio-economic backwardness.
2. **The Pull factors** make the place of destination seem more attractive than the place of origin for reasons like better job opportunities and living conditions, peace and stability, security of life and property and pleasant climate.

Q.3) Which of the following factors determine the shape and structure of rural settlements?

1. Water Availability.
2. Cultural factors.
3. Security.
4. Local temperature

Choose the correct option:

- a) 4 only
- b) 1 and 4 only
- c) 1, 3 and 4 only
- d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Q.3) Solution (d)

Explanation:

- Rural settlements in India can broadly be put into four types:
 1. Clustered, agglomerated or nucleated,
 2. Semi-clustered or fragmented,
 3. Hamleted, and
 4. Dispersed or isolated

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- There are various factors and conditions responsible for having different shapes and patterns of rural settlements in India. These include:
 1. Physical features – nature of terrain, altitude, climate and availability of water
 2. Cultural and ethnic factors – social structure, caste and religion
 3. Security factors – defence against thefts and robberies.

Q.4) Consider the following statements with respect to population growth in India.

1. The year 1921 is called as “Demographic Divide” in the demographic history of India.
2. Period between 1951-1981 is known as the period of population explosion.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q.4) Solution (c)

Basic Information:

- The demographic history of India can be charted and classified into following four distinct phases.
 1. Period of Stagnant Population (1901-1921)
 2. Period of steady growth (1921-1951)
 3. Period of rapid growth (1951-1981)
 4. Period of High Growth with definite signs of slowing down (1981-2011)
1. **Period of Stagnant Population (1901-1921):** In this period growth rate was very low, even recording a negative growth rate during 1911-1921. Poor health and medical services, illiteracy of people at large and inefficient distribution system of food and other basic necessities were largely responsible for a high birth and death rates in this period.

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- 2. Period of Steady Growth (1921-1951):** An overall improvement in health and sanitation throughout the country brought down the mortality rate. The crude birth rate remained high in this period leading to higher growth rate than the previous phase. This is impressive in the backdrop of the Great Economic Depression, 1920s and World War II.
- 3. Period of Rapid Growth (1951-1981):** The period of population explosion in India, was caused by a rapid fall in the mortality rate but a high fertility rate of population in the country. The average annual growth rate was as high as 2.2 per cent. It is in this period, after Independence, that developmental activities were introduced through a centralised planning process and the economy started showing up ensuring the improvement of the living condition of people at large. Besides, increased international migration bringing in Tibetans, Bangladeshis, Nepalis and even people from Pakistan contributed to the high growth rate.
- 4. Period of High Growth with definite signs of slowing down (post 1981 till present):** A downward trend of crude birth rate is held responsible for such a population growth. This was, in turn, affected by an increase in the mean age at marriage, improved quality of life particularly education of females in the country.

Statement Analysis:

Statement 1	Statement 2
Correct	Correct
The population growth during the period 1901-21 can be termed as stagnant. The high birth rate was counterbalanced by a high death rate. The progressive growth rate in 1921 over 1901 was only 5.42 percent. The census year 1921 registered a negative growth rate of minus 0.31percent and it happened only once in the demographic history of India. It is because of this reason 1921 is called “Demographic Divide” in the demographic history of India.	After 1951, there was a steep fall in the mortality rate but the fertility remained stubbornly high. Therefore this period experienced a very high rate of population growth and is often referred to as the period of population explosion.

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Q.5) With respect to the composition of the working population in the country, consider the following statements.

1. The work participation rate tends to be higher in the areas of higher levels of economic development.
2. About 54.6 percent of the total working population in the country are cultivators and agricultural laborers.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) 1 and 2
- d) None of the above.

Q.5) Solution (b)

Basic Information:

- As per the Census 2001, the Indian workforce is over 400 million strong, which constitutes 39.1 percent of the total population of the country. The workers comprise 312 million main workers and 88 million marginal workers (i.e., those who did not work for at least 183 days in the preceding 12 months to the census taking).
- Sex differential among the number of male and female worker in the total workforce is significant. Of the total 402 million workers, 275 million are males and 127 million females. This would mean that 51.7 percent of the total males and 25.6 percent of the total females are workers. The number of female workers is about less than half the number of male workers. In terms of proportion, 68.4 percent of the workers are males and 31.6 percent females

Statement Analysis:

Statement 1	Statement 2
Incorrect	Correct
In India, the work participation rate tends to be higher in the areas of lower levels of economic development. Because a large number of manual workers are needed to perform the subsistence economic activities. E.g, states like Chhattisgarh,	As per the census 2011, the majority of the working population in the country are cultivators and agricultural laborers.

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Bihar, himachal pradesh have higher work participation rate.

Q.6) “Short Stature, dark chocolate brown skin, woolly hair, bulbous forehead, broad flat nose and slightly protruding jaws”

To which ethnic group does the above description refer to?

- a) Australoids
- b) Negrito
- c) Mongoloids
- d) Dravidians.

Q.6) Solution (b)

Explanation:

Ethnic Group	Prominent Features
Negrito	Short Stature, dark chocolate brown skin, woolly hair, bulbous forehead, broad flat nose and slightly protruding jaws
Proto Australoids	Resemble Negritos but no woolly hairs.
Mongoloids	Round and Broad head, face with very high cheekbones and long flat nose, little or no hair on the body.
Dravidians	Medium stature, dark skin and long head
Nordics	Long head, fair complexion, well developed nose and a well built body.

Q.7) Coorgis and Parsis are representatives of which ethnic group in India?

- a) Brachycephals
- b) Nordics
- c) Dravidians

d) Mongoloids

Q.7) Solution (a)

Explanation:

Coorgis or Kodavas:

- The Kodavas or coorgis are considered a patrilineal ethno-lingual tribe from the region of Kodagu, (in the state of Karnataka) They natively speak the Kodava language. Traditionally they are land-owning agriculturists with martial customs.
- Kodavas may be the descendants of the broad headed, 'brachycephalic' stock who entered into the Indus Valley during the Mohenjodaro period before the Indo-Aryans and later migrated to the Coorg region.
- One view is that the Kodavas are descendants of Scythians. According to yet another but similar view, the Kodavas belong to the Indo-Scythian race like the Sakas, the Western Kshatrapas and the Thiyyar.

Parsis:

- Parsis (which means 'Persian' in the Persian language) are an ethno religious group who migrated to the Indian subcontinent from Persia during the Muslim conquest of Persia of CE 636–651
- They belong to the Brachycephals ethnic group in a broad way.

Q.8) Consider the following statements with respect to Scheduled caste and scheduled tribe population in India:

1. No tribe has been scheduled in Arunachal Pradesh and no Caste has been scheduled in Punjab.
2. Out of total population in the state/Union territory Lakshadweep has the highest percentage of population as scheduled tribe population.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

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Q.8) Solution (b)

Basic Information:

- The tribes are the autochthonous or native people of the land who are believed to be the earliest settlers in the Indian peninsula. They are generally called Adivasis.
- Article 341 and 342 of the Indian constitution defines as to who constitutes the scheduled caste and scheduled tribe population in India.
- The Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes comprise about 16.6% and 8.6%, respectively of India's population (according to the 2011 census).

Statement Analysis:

Statement 1	Statement 2
Incorrect	Correct
No tribe has been scheduled in Punjab, Haryana, Chandigarh and Delhi. And nocaste has been scheduled in Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Andaman Nicobar and Lakshadweep.	Tribal population as percentage of total population: 1. Lakshadweep - 94.79 percent 2. Mizoram - 94.43 percent 3. Nagaland - 86.48 percent 4. Meghalaya - 86.15 percent 5. Arunachal Pradesh - 68.79

Q.9) Consider the following statements with respect to the linguistic composition in India:

1. The linguistic regions in the country have distinct boundaries.
2. Manipuri is the smallest language group among the scheduled languages.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) 1 and 2
- d) None of the above.

Q.9) Solution (d)

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Basic Information:

- It is said that India is a forest of languages. The most comprehensive data on languages was collected at the time of the 1961 census. According to these census figures there were 187 languages spoken in India. Out of these as many as 94 languages are spoken by less than 10000 persons each and 23 languages together account for 77 percent of the total population of the country.
- 22 languages have been considered as scheduled languages in the constitution of India. Maithili, Santhali, Bodo and Dogri were newly added to this list.
- Language became the prime criteria for delimitation of states after Independence in India.
- Hindi speaking people constitute the highest percentage of the total population in India. About 41.03 percent.

Statement Analysis:

Statement 1	Statement 2
Incorrect	Incorrect
The linguistic regions in the country do not have distinct boundaries. They gradually merge and overlap in their respective frontier zones	Sanskrit is the smallest language group amongst the scheduled languages.

Q.10) Consider the following statements with respect to sex ratio in India:

1. Kerala is the only state/union territory in India which has more females than males as per the census 2011.
2. Amongst the states Haryana has the lowest sex ratio.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q.10) Solution (b)

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Basic Information:

Sex Ratio:

- Sex ratio is defined as “number of females per 1000 males in the population”.
- Sex ratio of population of a country is mainly the outcome of the interplay of sex differentials in mortality, sex selective migration, sex ratio at birth and at times sex differential in population enumeration.
- As per the census 2011, the overall sex ratio for Indian population is 940.

Few Important Statistics on Sex Ratio:

- State with Highest Female Sex Ratio : Kerala (1,058)
- State with Lowest Female Sex Ratio : Haryana (861)
- UT with Highest Female Sex Ratio : Pondicherry (1,001)
- UT with Lowest Female Sex Ratio : Daman & Diu (710)
- District with Highest Female Sex Ratio : Mahe (Pondicherry) (1,147)
- District with Lowest Female Sex Ratio : Daman (Daman & Diu) (591)

Q.11) The shape of the population pyramid reflects the characteristics of the population. Which of the following pairs is/are correctly matched?

<u>Shape of Pyramid</u>	<u>Meaning</u>
1. Bell shaped	Constant population.
2. Triangle	Declining population.
3. Tapered top and bottom	Expanding population.

Choose the correct option:

- a) 1 only
- b) 1 and 2 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) 1 and 3 only

Q.11) Solution (a)

Basic Information:

- The age-sex structure of a population refers to the number of females and males in different age groups.

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- A population pyramid is used to show the age-sex structure of the population.
- The shape of the population pyramid reflects the characteristics of the population. The left side shows the percentage of males while the right side shows the percentage of women in each age group.

Shape of population pyramid	Meaning	Examples
Bell Shaped	Constant population	Australia
Triangle shaped	Expanding population	Nigeria
Tapered top and bottom	Declining population	Japan

Q.12) Consider the following statements with respect to population growth rate.

1. The annual growth rate of population for the entire country is around 1.64 percent as per the census 2011.
2. Himachal Pradesh registered the lowest population growth rate as per the census 2011.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) 1 and 2
- d) None of the above.

Q.12) Solution (a)

Basic Information:

Population growth rate in India:

- The percentage decadal growth during the period 2001-2011 has registered the sharpest decline since independence. It declined from 23.87 percent for 1981-91 to 21.94 percent for the period 1991-2001, a decrease of 2.33 percentage points.
- For 2001-11 this decadal growth has become 17.64 percent, a further decrease of 3.9 percentage point.

Statement Analysis:

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Statement 1	Statement 2
Correct	Incorrect
The annual growth rate of India's population is 1.64 percent and the decadal growth rate is around 17 percent	Kerala registered the lowest population growth rate as per the census 2011

Q.13) Consider the following statements with respect to urban areas in India:

1. Goa is the most urbanised state in India as per census 2011.
2. The proportion of Urban population is lowest in Himachal Pradesh.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q.13) Solution (c)

Basic Information:

- As per the census in 2011, 31% of the country's population lived in urban areas.
- In terms of absolute number of persons living in urban areas, Maharashtra continues to lead with 50.8 million persons which comprises 13.5 percent of the total urban population of the country. Uttar Pradesh accounts for about 44.4 million, followed by Tamil Nadu at 34.9 million.
- The proportion of urban population continues to be the lowest in Himachal Pradesh with 10.0 per cent followed by Bihar with 11.3 percent, Assam (14.1 percent) and Orissa (16.7 percent).
- Among major states, Tamil Nadu continues to be the most urbanized state with 48.4 percent of the population living in urban areas followed now by Kerala (47.7 per cent) upstaging Maharashtra (45.2 percent).

Statement Analysis:

Statement 1	Statement 2
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correct	Correct
Among all the States and Union territories, the National Capital Territory of Delhi and the Union territory of Chandigarh are most urbanized with 97.5 percent and 97.25 percent urban population respectively, while among mong States, Goa is now the most urbanised State with 62.2 percent urban population.	The proportion of urban population is lowest in Himachal Pradesh with 10 percent.

Q.14) Arrange the following religious minorities groups in descending order based on their population size (As per census 2011):

1. Jains
2. Christians
3. Budhists
4. Sikhs

Choose the correct option:

- a) 2-3-4-1
- b) 2-4-3-1
- c) 2-3-1-4
- d) 2-3-4-1

Q.14) Solution (b)

Basic Information:

- Religion is one of the most dominant forces affecting the cultural and political life of most Indians.
- Religion virtually permeates into almost all the aspects of people's family and community lives; it is important to study the religious composition in detail.

Population size based on religion (As per census 2011)

- Hindu 96.63 crores (79.8%);
- Muslim 17.22 crores (14.2%);
- Christian 2.78 crores (2.3%);
- Sikh 2.08 crores (1.7%);

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- Buddhist 0.84 crores (0.7%);
- Jain 0.45 crores (0.4%),
- Other Religions & Persuasions (ORP) 0.79 crores (0.7%) and Religion Not Stated 0.29 crores (0.2%).

Q.15) 'Panna', 'para', 'nagla' are local names of what type of rural settlements in India?

- a) Nucleated.
- b) Semi Clustered.
- c) Hamleted
- d) Isolated

Q.15) Solution (c)

Explanation:

Rural settlements in India can broadly be put into four types:

- **Clustered, agglomerated or nucleated:** In this type of village the general living area is distinct and separated from the surrounding farms, barns and pastures. Such settlements are generally found in fertile alluvial plains and in the north-eastern states.
- **Semi-clustered or fragmented:** It may result from tendency of clustering in a restricted area of dispersed settlement. one or more sections of the village society choose or are forced to live a little away from the main cluster or village. Such settlements are widespread in the Gujarat plain and some parts of Rajasthan.
- **Hamleted:** These units are locally called panna, para, palli, nagla, dhani, etc. in various parts of the country. This segmentation of a large village is often motivated by social and ethnic factors. Such villages are more frequently found in the middle and lower Ganga plain, Chhattisgarh and lower valleys of the Himalayas.
- **Dispersed or isolated:** Extreme dispersion of settlement is often caused by the extremely fragmented nature of the terrain and land resource base of habitable areas. Many areas of Meghalaya, Uttaranchal, Himachal Pradesh and Kerala have this type of settlement

Q.16) Consider the following statements with respect to literacy rates in India:

1. The crude literacy rate for India in Census 2011 is 74.04 percent.

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2. Kerala is the only state in India where female literacy rate is higher than the male literacy rate.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q.16) Solution (d)

Basic Information:

Crude Literacy rate and Effective Literacy rate:

- The literacy rate taking into account the total population of the country is termed as “Crude Literacy Rate”, while the literacy rate calculated taking into account the age seven and above population is called the “Effective Literacy Rate”.
- For the purpose of census 2011, a person aged seven and above, who can both read and write with understanding in any language, is treated as literate. A person, who can only read but cannot write, is not literate.

Some facts related to Literacy rate in India:

- The results of the 2011 census reveal that there has been an increase in literacy in the country.
- The literacy rate in the country is 74.04 per cent, 82.14 for males and 65.46 for females.
- Kerala retained its position by being on top with a 93.91 percent literacy rate, closely followed by Lakshadweep (92.28 per cent) and Mizoram (91.58 per cent).
- Bihar with a literacy rate of 63.82 per cent ranks last in the country preceded by Arunachal Pradesh (66.95 per cent) and Rajasthan (67.06 per cent).
- The difference in literacy among males and females is as low as less than 5% in state of Meghalaya, Kerala and Mizoram whereas states like Rajasthan, Jharkhand, D & N Haveli, Jammu & Kashmir, Uttar Pradesh, Chhatisgarh have the difference to be the magnitude of 20% and above.

Statement Analysis:

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Statement 1	Statement 2
Incorrect	Incorrect
The effective literacy rate in India is 74.04 percent as per the census 2011.	No state in India has a female literacy rate higher than those of males.

Q.17) Which of the following factors are considered for enumeration of migration in census of India?

1. Place of birth
2. Place of work
3. Place of residence

Choose the correct option:

- a) 1 only
- b) 1 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 2 only
- d) 1,2 and 3

Q.17) Solution (b)

Explanation:

- Migration is one of the important data collected during the census exercise.
- In the census of India, migration is enumerated based on the following two factors.
 1. Place of Birth: If the place of birth is different from the place of enumeration (known as life time migrant)
 2. Place of residence: If the place of last residence is different from the place of enumeration (known as migrant by place of last residence)

Q.18) Which of the following factors are considered for classifying the census towns in India?

1. Total population
2. Both male and female working population
3. Density of population
4. Growth rate of population.

Choose the correct option:

- a) 1 and 3 only
- b) 1, 2 and 3 only
- c) 1, 2 and 4 only
- d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Q.18) Solution (a)

Explanation:

According to census 2011, urban areas are comprised types administrative units

1. Statutory Towns: All administrative units that have been defined by statute as urban like Municipal Corporation, Municipality, Cantonment Board, Notified Town Area Committee, Town Panchayat, nagar Palika etc
2. Census towns: Administrative units satisfying the following three criteria simultaneously are treated as census towns.
 - It should have a minimum population of 5000 persons.
 - At least 75 percent of the male main working population should have been engaged in non-agricultural activities.
 - It should have a density of population of at least 400 persons per sq km. (1000 per sq mile).

Q.19) Consider the following statements with respect to density of population:

1. Arunachal Pradesh has the lowest population density amongst states in India.
2. Bihar has the highest population density amongst states in India.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q.19) Solution (c)

Basic Information:

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- Population density is defined as the number of persons per sq km. It is one of the important indices of population concentration is the density of population.
- Population density helps in getting a better understanding of the spatial distribution of population in relation to land.
- There has been a steady increase of more than 200 persons per sq km over the last 50 years as the density of population increased from 117 persons/ sq km in 1951 to 382 persons/sq km in 2011.
- Spatial variation of population densities in the country ranges from as low as 17 persons per sq km in Arunachal Pradesh to 11,320 persons in the National Capital Territory of Delhi.
- Maharashtra 365, Karnataka 319, Madhya Pradesh 236.
- Among the northern Indian States Bihar (1106), West Bengal (1028) and Uttar Pradesh (829) have higher densities.
- Kerala (860) and Tamil Nadu (555) have higher densities among the peninsular Indian states.

Statement Analysis:

Statement 1	Statement 2
Correct	Correct
Arunachal pradesh has the lowest population density amongst states in India (17 persons per sq km)	Bihar has the highest population density amongst states in India (1106 person per sq km)

Q.20) Ambala and Udhampur are categorised as which category of towns in India (According to functional classification)?

- a) Administrative towns
- b) Education towns
- c) Garrison cantonment towns
- d) Religious towns.

Q.20) Solution (c)

Explanation:

Functional Classification of towns in India.

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Administrative towns	Chandigarh, New Delhi, Bhopal, Shillong, Guwahati, Imphal, Srinagar, Gandhinagar, Jaipur, Chennai
Industrial towns	Mumbai, Salem, Coimbatore, Modinagar, Jamshedpur, Hugli, Bhilai, etc.
Transport towns	Kandla, Kochchi, Kozhikode, Visakhapatnam, etc.
Commercial towns	Mumbai, Kolkata, Saharanpur, Satna, Delhi, Ahmedabad etc .
Mining towns	Raniganj, Jharia, Singrauli, Korba, Dhanbad, Bellari etc.
Garrison Cantonment towns	Ambala, Udampur, Mhow, Babina, Jalandhar etc
Educational towns	Varanasi, Bengaluru, Aligarh, Allahabad, Manipal etc
Religious towns	Varanasi, Mathura, Amritsar, Madurai, Puri, Ajmer etc

Q.21) With reference to Soil Health Card (SHC) Scheme, Consider the following statements:

1. SHC is a printed report that a farmer will be handed over for each of his holdings.
2. The cost of sampling, testing and reporting is borne by State Government.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q.21) Solution (b)

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- SHC is a printed report that a farmer will be handed over for each of his holdings. It will contain the status of his soil with respect to 12 parameters.
- The cost of sampling, testing and reporting is borne by Central Government. It provides the sum to the state governments.
- SHC is a printed report that a farmer will be handed over for each of his holdings. It is provided to all farmers in the country at an interval of 2 years to enable the farmers to apply recommended doses of nutrients based on soil test values.
- In India, the current consumption of Nitrogen, Phosphorus, and Potassium (NPK) ratio is 6.7:2.4:1, which is highly skewed towards nitrogen (urea) as against ideal ratio of 4:2:1.
- The scheme is being promoted by Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers welfare under Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare and implemented by respective Department of Agriculture in States & UTs.
- Farmers can also track soil samples on the Soil Health Card Portal.
- Soil samples are tested with respect to 12 parameters:
 - Macro nutrients: Nitrogen (N), Phosphorus (P), Potassium (K);
 - Secondary nutrient: Sulphur (S);
 - Micro nutrients: Zinc (Zn), Iron (Fe), Copper (Cu), Manganese (Mn), Boron (B);
 - Physical parameters: pH, EC (electrical conductivity), OC (organic carbon).
- During 2019-20, a pilot project 'Development of Model Villages' has been undertaken up where soil samples collection has been done at individual farm holding with farmer's participation instead of sample collection at grids.

Q.22) The term SUTRA PIC is sometimes seen in the news with reference to

- a) Enhancing activity of antibiotics and anticancer drugs, and other medicinal properties.
- b) Systematic scientific investigation of uniqueness of pure Indigenous Indian cows.
- c) Standardize effective, economic and eco-friendly preparations of Utility products.
- d) Perform scientific investigations on plant growth, soil health and providing immunity in plant system.

Q.22) Solution (b)

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- SUTRA PIC: Scientific Utilisation Through Research Augmentation-Prime Products From Indigenous Cows. One of the major aims is the systematic scientific investigation of uniqueness of pure Indigenous Indian cows.
- To be funded by multiple scientific ministries, the initiative is led by the Department of Science and Technology (DST).
- Cowpathy is a treatment based on products obtained from Indigenous cow as used in Ayurveda.

SUTRA PIC Covers following five thematic areas:

- Uniqueness of Indigenous Cows
- Prime-products from Indigenous Cows for Medicine and Health
- Prime-products from Indigenous Cows for Agricultural Applications
- Prime-products from Indigenous Cows for Food and Nutrition
- Prime-products from indigenous cows-based utility items

Q.23) The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) aims to set up Ultra Mega Renewable Energy (RE) Parks at

- a) Maharashtra and Karnataka
- b) Gujarat and Rajasthan
- c) Delhi and Haryana
- d) Tamil Nadu and Telangana

Q.23) Solution (b)

- The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) aims to set up Ultra Mega Renewable Energy (RE) Parks with a capacity of a total of 50 GW in Gujarat and Rajasthan.
- The initiative could be the one of the largest renewable energy investment programmes in the world.
- Khavada in Gujarat and Jaisalmer in Rajasthan have been identified for RE parks of 25,000 megawatt (25GW) each.
- The MNRE has also requested the Ministry of Power to strengthen the transmission infrastructure to these locations within two years for the evacuation of power from these parks.

Q.24) National e-Governance Services Delivery Assessment (NeSDA), 2019 framework covers which of the following six sectors?

1. Labour & Employment
2. Education
3. Transport
4. Local Government & Utilities
5. Insurance
6. Environment

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- a) 2, 3 and 4 only
- b) 1,2 and 4 only
- c) 1,2,4 and 6 only
- d) 1,3,4 and 5 only

Q.24) Solution (c)

- National e-Governance Service Delivery Assessment (NeSDA) 2019 rankings were released by Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances.
- It is done for 4 categories: Union territories (7), North-Eastern States and Hill states (11), Remaining states (18), Central government ministries websites.
- It primarily assesses all State/UT and Central Ministry service portals on 7 key parameters: Accessibility, Content Availability, Ease of Use, Information Security & Privacy, End service Delivery, Integrated Service Delivery and Status & Request Tracking.
- Framework covers six sectors - **Finance, Labour & Employment, Education, Local Government & Utilities, Social Welfare (including Agriculture & Health) and Environment (including Fire).**

Ranking

- Delhi, Chandigarh, Daman and Diu administration are the winners among Union territories across all parameters.
- Haryana and Rajasthan are the leading states in the assessment under the "remaining states" category comprising 18 states.

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- The website of the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) under the Finance Ministry is the winner under the assessment of central ministry service portals category.
- The ministry portals of Health & Family Welfare, and Human Resource have emerged leaders across "all parameters".
- In terms of portals Kerala scored the highest in states and UTs category.

Q.25) The signatory of "Agreement for Bringing Peace to Afghanistan" are

- a) Russia and USA
- b) USA and Taliban
- c) Pakistan and Taliban
- d) India and Afghanistan

Q.25) Solution (b)

- The United States of America signed the "Agreement for Bringing Peace to Afghanistan" with the Taliban in Doha, Qatar.
- The US will pull its troops out of Afghanistan after nearly 19 years in return for a security guarantee from the Taliban group.
- Taliban will take steps "to prevent any group or individual, including al-Qa'ida, from using the soil of Afghanistan to threaten the security of the United States and its allies."

Q.26) Consider the following statements with respect to 'Kalinje Ecotourism'

1. It is a part of a community-based conservation initiative for the upliftment of local communities and promotion of mangrove and marine biodiversity conservation.
2. It is an initiative by the Maharashtra Forest Department.

Select the correct statements

- a) 1 Only
- b) 2 Only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q.26) Solution (c)

Kalinje Ecotourism is a part of a community-based conservation initiative taken up by the Mangrove and Marine Biodiversity Conservation Foundation of Maharashtra Forest

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Department for the upliftment of local communities and promotion of mangrove and marine biodiversity conservation.

Q.27) Which of the following species is the keystone species of Nauradehi Wildlife Sanctuary?

- a) Indian Wolf
- b) Jerdon's Courser
- c) Batagur Turtle
- d) Asiatic Lion

Q.27) Solution (a)

Indian wolf is the keystone species of Nauradehi Wildlife Sanctuary.

Q.28) Consider the following statements

1. The Wetland (Conservation and Management) Rules, 2017 removed 'backwaters, lagoon, creeks, and estuaries' from the definition of 'wetlands'.
2. A total of 37 sites in India have been recognised under the Ramsar Convention.

Select the correct statements

- a) 1 Only
- b) 2 Only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q.28) Solution (c)

India has added 10 more wetlands to sites protected by the Ramsar Convention. With this, a total of 37 sites in the country have been recognised under the international treaty.

Nandur Madhameshwar in Maharashtra; Keshopur-Miani, Beas Conservation Reserve and Nangal in Punjab; and Nawabganj, Parvati Agra, Saman, Samaspur, Sandi and Sarsai Nawar in UP.

The 2010 version of the Rules provided for a Central Wetland Regulatory Authority; the 2017 Rules replace it with state-level bodies and created a National Wetland Committee, which functions in an advisory role. The newer regulations removed some items from the definition of "wetlands" including backwaters, lagoon, creeks, and estuaries.

Q.29) 'Muktoshri — also called IET 21845' is a

- a) Portable Reverse Osmosis water purifier developed by DRDO.
- b) Arsenic-resistant rice cultivated in West Bengal.
- c) Medicine developed by Ministry of Ayush to treat Diabetes.
- d) None of the above

Q.29) Solution (b)

It is a rice variety that is resistant to arsenic. Several studies have shown that arsenic from groundwater and the soil can enter the food chain through paddy.

The new rice variety, Muktooshi — also called IET 21845 —, was developed jointly by the Rice Research Station at Chinsurah coming under West Bengal's Agriculture Department and the National Botanical Research Institute, Lucknow.

Q.30) 'NLRP3' is a protein which was in news recently. It is found in which of the following species?

1. Humans
2. Bats
3. Mice

Select the correct code:

- a) 1 and 2
- b) 2 and 3
- c) 2 Only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

Q.30) Solution (d)

It is found in all of the above species.

Read More - <https://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/science/how-bats-harbour-several-viruses-yet-not-get-sick/article30711334.ece>